



NO. 52...APR...MAY

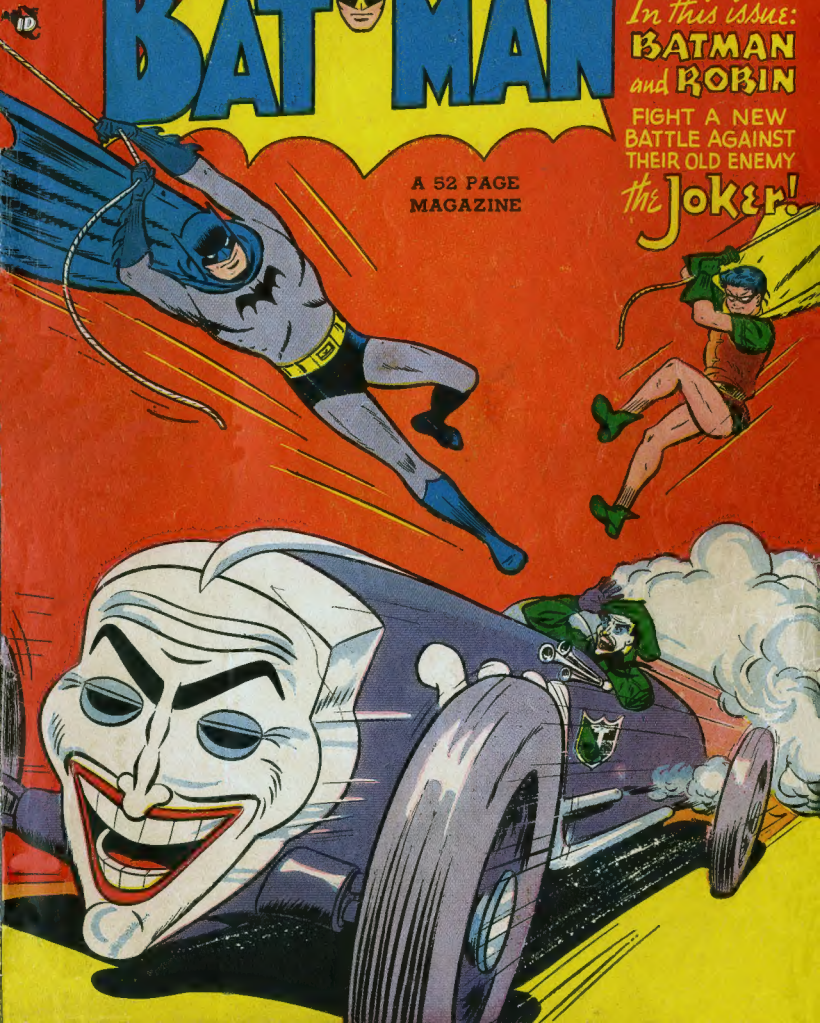
TEN CENTS



BATMAN

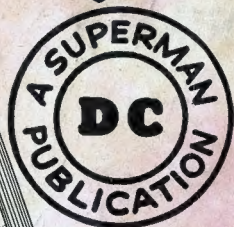
A 52 PAGE
MAGAZINE

In this issue:
BATMAN
and **ROBIN**
FIGHT A NEW
BATTLE AGAINST
THEIR OLD ENEMY
the Joker!

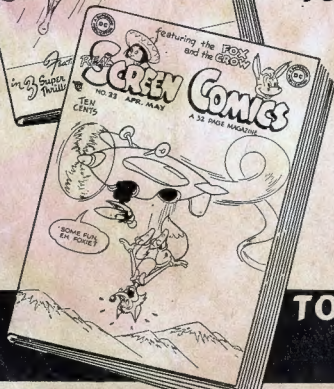


NOW
MORE THAN
EVER

~ LOOK
FOR THIS
FAMOUS
SYMBOL!



THERE ARE
MORE COMICS ON THE NEWS-
STANDS THAN EVER BEFORE
- SOME *GOOD*, SOME *BAD*,
SOME *AVERAGE*...



THAT'S WHY IT'S MORE
IMPORTANT THAN EVER
FOR *YOU* TO LOOK FOR
THE **SUPERMAN-DC**
SYMBOL AT THE TOP OF
EVERY COMIC MAGAZINE
YOU BUY! IT'S YOUR
GUARANTEE OF THE **BEST**
IN COMIC READING!

**TOP VALUE
IN THE TOP
MAGAZINES!**

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BATMAN



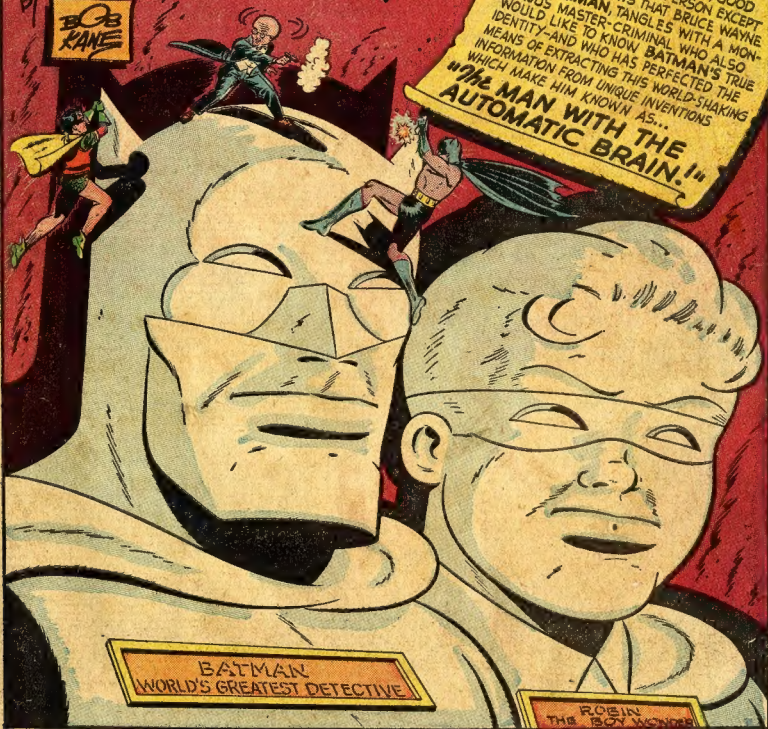
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

DO YOU REMEMBER ALFRED, BRUCE WAYNE'S TRUSTED BUTLER, THE OVER-ZEALOUS, WOULD-BE SHERLOCK WHO MANAGES TO GET INVOLVED IN THE OLDEST ADVENTURES? WELL, GOOD OLD ALFRED, THE ONLY PERSON EXCEPT ROBIN WHO KNOWS THAT BRUCE WAYNE IS THE BATMAN, TANGLES WITH A MONSTROUS MASTER-CRIMINAL WHO ALSO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW BATMAN'S TRUE IDENTITY-AND WHO HAS PERFECTED THE MEANS OF EXTRACTING THIS WORLD-SHAKING INFORMATION FROM UNIQUE INVENTIONS WHICH MAKE HIM KNOWN AS...

"THE MAN WITH THE AUTOMATIC BRAIN!"

BY
BOB KANE



BATMAN
WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE

ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER



ON A STAR-SPRAYED SUMMER NIGHT, THE YACHT "CAROLINA" PLIES STEADILY SOUTHWARD ON ITS GALA MAIDEN VOYAGE, ITS PASSENGERS UNAWARE OF IMPENDING DISASTER!



ABOARD, FESTIVITY IS THE KEYNOTE OF GOTHAM CITY'S CAFE SOCIETY AS...



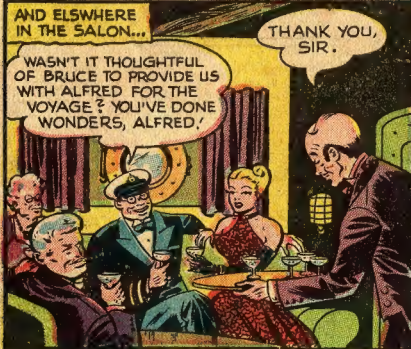
METHINKS MISS VICKI VALE DOTH TAKE TOO MANY PICTURES OF OUR HANDSOME PLAYBOY, BRUCE WAYNE! ARE THEY FOR PICTURE MAGAZINE—OR YOUR DIARY?

MEOW!

AND ELSEWHERE IN THE SALON...

WASN'T IT THOUGHTFUL OF BRUCE TO PROVIDE US WITH ALFRED FOR THE VOYAGE? YOU'VE DONE WONDERS, ALFRED!

THANK YOU, SIR.



BUT, SCARCELY AN HOUR LATER, WHEN VICKI GOES ON DECK FOR A BREATH OF AIR, THE GAIETY IS SHATTERED ABRUPTLY WHEN...

WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE? IS THAT YOU, ALFRED?

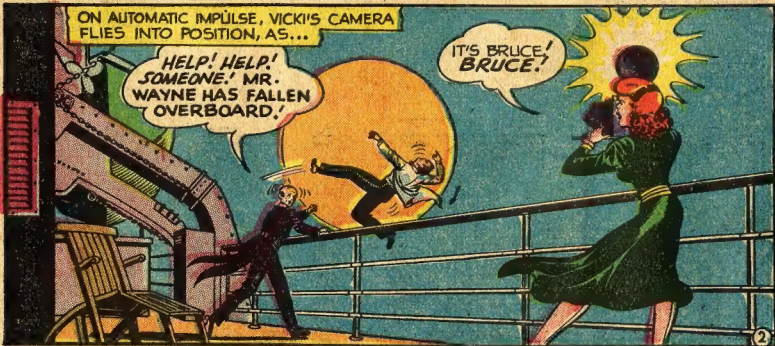
DON'T DO IT, MR. WAYNE! YOU'LL LOSE YOUR BALANCE! PLEASE, SIR—COME BACK!

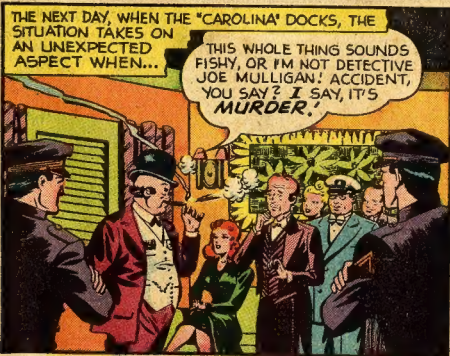
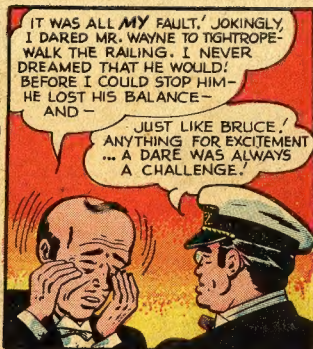
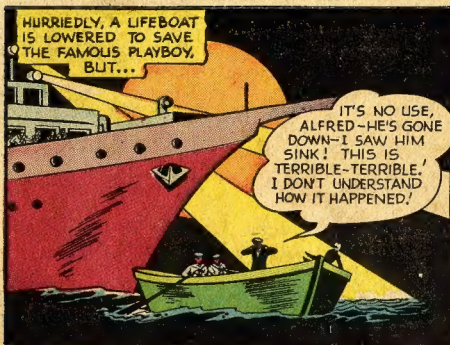


ON AUTOMATIC IMPULSE, VICKI'S CAMERA FLIES INTO POSITION, AS...

HELP! HELP! SOMEONE! MR. WAYNE HAS FALLEN OVERBOARD!

IT'S BRUCE! BRUCE!







PROTESTING IN VAIN, ALFRED IS BOOKED ON SUSPICION OF MURDER, AS...

I TELL YOU SIR - IT'S OPEN AND SHUT! WE'VE GOT THE MOTIVE NOW, TOO! THE BUTLER INHERITS A FORTUNE UNDER THE TERMS OF BRUCE WAYNE'S WILL!

DID ALFRED **MURDER** BRUCE? OR WAS IT REALLY AN ACCIDENT? FOR THE AMAZING TRUTH, WE MUST TURN BACK TIME...

OH, DEAR - NOW I'M **REALLY** IN A JAM! AND **BATMAN** CAN'T HELP ME ANY MORE!

... BACK TO ANOTHER DAY IN GOTHAM CITY SPRAWLING, PULSING GIANT OF A TOWN... WHERE A MILLION SEPARATE DRAMAS UNFOLD EACH MOMENT... INCLUDING THE STARK TRAGEDY OF **CRIME!**

LIKE TWIN METEORS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** STREAK INTO ACTION!

LOOK OUT!! IT'S **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!**

PRESENTLY...

THOSE THUGS YOU BROUGHT IN ARE SOME MORE OF THE 'THINKER'S' BOYS, **BATMAN!** WE PICKED ANOTHER ONE UP BADLY WOUNDED, INSIDE THE BANK. WITNESSES CLAIM THE 'THINKER' HIMSELF SHOT THE HOOD WHEN HE BLUNDERED.

SOON AFTER...

THE 'THINKER' IS ONE OF THE MOST FIENDISH CRIMINALS OF OUR TIME, **ROBIN!** A MAN WHO EMPLOYS SUPER-HUMAN 'THINKING MACHINES' TO PLAN EVERY INCH OF HIS CRIMES - A METHODICAL MONSTER WE'D BETTER TRACK DOWN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ZOOM

AND HERE, HEWN IN NEARBY MOUNTAINS, IS THE "THINKER'S" AMAZING, GIANT HIDEOUT!

AND AS AN ADDED DIABOLICAL TOUCH, THE "THINKER" CHOOSES APT FIGURES FROM HISTORY TO HOUSE HIS EXTRAORDINARY MACHINES...

Analytical and Detective Machine
EDGAR ALLAN POE
MASTER OF CRIME DETECTION

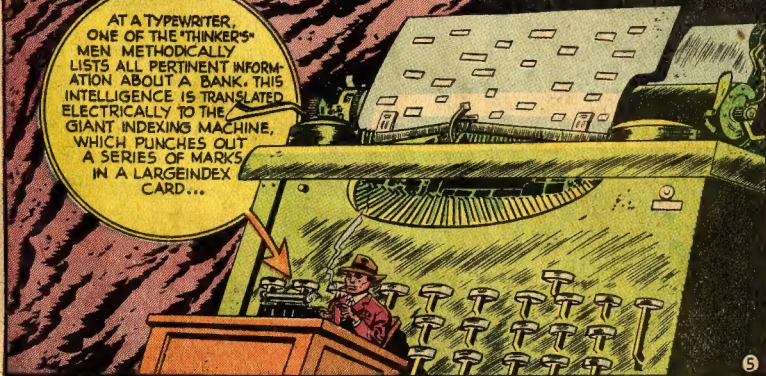


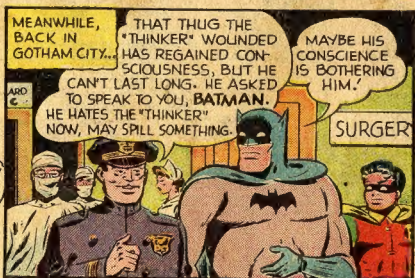
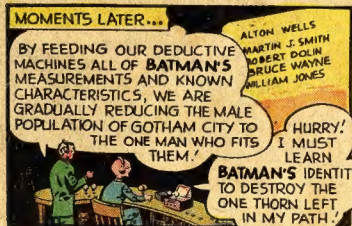
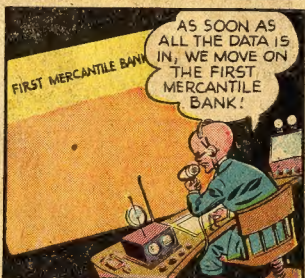
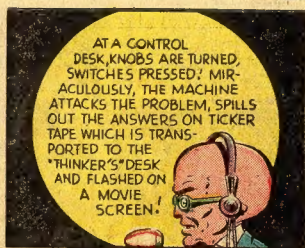
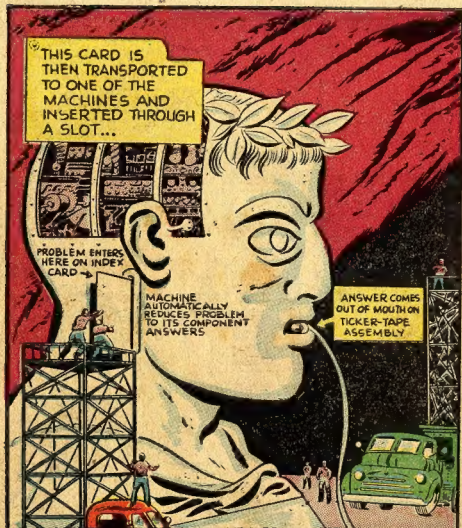
NO—THIS IS NO MUSEUM! WITHIN EACH CHISELED SKULL IS LODGED AN ELECTRONIC "AUTOMATIC BRAIN"—A "THINKING MACHINE" CAPABLE OF REDUCING IN HOURS A PROBLEM THAT MIGHT TAKE HUMANS MONTHS TO SOLVE!

Poison Formula Calculator
LUCREZIA BORGIA
CONNOISSEUR OF POISONS

HERE IS THE MANNER IN WHICH THE MACHINES MAKE THEIR AMAZING DEDUCTIONS FOR THE "THINKER"!

AT A TYPEWRITER, ONE OF THE "THINKER'S" MEN METHODICALLY LISTS ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION ABOUT A BANK. THIS INTELLIGENCE IS TRANSLATED ELECTRICALLY TO THE GIANT INDEXING MACHINE, WHICH PUNCHES OUT A SERIES OF MARKS IN A LARGE INDEX CARD...







RETURNING TO THEIR REGULAR ROLES AS PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

WITH BRUCE WAYNE "DEAD" THE "THINKER" WILL BE THROWN OFF THE TRACK. IT'S A STALLING TACTIC THAT MUST BE UNDERTAKEN AT ONCE—AND THIS DUMMY FROM OUR COLLECTION WILL HELP DO THE TRICK!



I'LL ARRANGE FOR ALFRED TO SAIL WITH ME TOMORROW ON THE 'CAROLINA'. AT A PREDETERMINED TIME, I'LL DISAPPEAR AND YOU, ALFRED, WILL DUMP THE DUMMY OVERBOARD AND FAKE AN ACCIDENT!

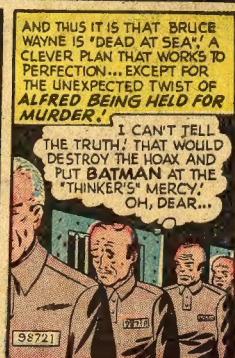


WHEN WATER REACHES THIS POWDER, IT WILL HARDEN INTO STONE AND SINK THE DUMMY. IT SHOULD TAKE ABOUT THREE MINUTES... ENOUGH TIME FOR WITNESSES TO SEE ME "DROWN"!



AND THUS IT IS THAT BRUCE WAYNE IS "DEAD AT SEA"! A CLEVER PLAN THAT WORKS TO PERFECTION... EXCEPT FOR THE UNEXPECTED TWIST OF **ALFRED BEING HELD FOR MURDER!**

I CAN'T TELL THE TRUTH! THAT WOULD DESTROY THE HOAX AND PUT **BATMAN** AT THE "THINKER'S" MERCY! OH, DEAR...



THAT AFTERNOON, POLICE ALLOW A LAWYER TO VISIT ALFRED...

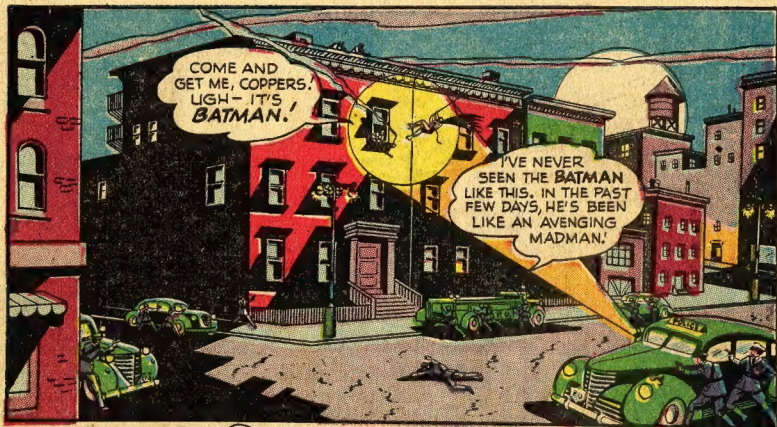
SHHHH! SIT TIGHT—DON'T WORRY. I'LL FIGURE A WAY OUT FOR YOU. MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT TO MAKE SOME APPEARANCES AS **BATMAN**, SO THAT HE AND BRUCE WAYNE ARE FOREVER DISASSOCIATED. I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN!

MR. WAYNE!



WHILE THE NEWSPAPERS STILL BURN WITH STORIES OF BRUCE WAYNE'S MURDER, **BATMAN** ROARS AGAINST THE UNDERWORLD WITH RENEWED FRENZY TO MAKE SURE HIS PRESENCE IS KNOWN TO THE "THINKER"!





COME AND
GET ME, COPPERS.
UGH - IT'S
BATMAN!

I'VE NEVER
SEEN THE **BATMAN**
LIKE THIS. IN THE PAST
FEW DAYS, HE'S BEEN
LIKE AN AVENGING
MADMAN!

MEANWHILE;
IN PRISON...

GOODNESS - MUST'N'T
LET THESE CHAPS CATCH
ON - HAVE TO PLAY THE
PART...

SO YOU'RE THE GUY
WHAT RUBBED OUT WAYNE,
EH? YA DON'T LOOK SO
TOUGH TA ME.

OH, YEAH? EVER HEAR
OF THE MORTON AXE
MASSACRE, AND THE
KING KELLEY KILLINGS?
THAT WAS MORE
OF MY WORK,
BUB!

LATER, IN THE
PRISON YARD...

I GUESS YOU'RE
THE MCCOY, PAL!
THE 'THINKER'.
'COULD USE A
GUY LIKE YOU.

THE 'THINKER'.
HMM - I'LL STRING
ALONG...

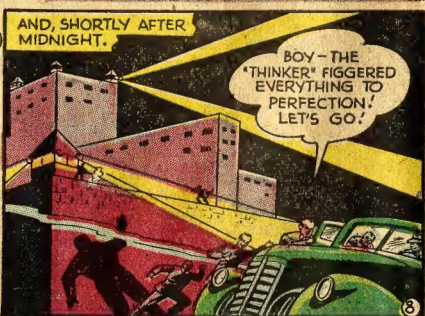


LISTEN, PAL -
THE 'THINKER'S'
GONNA SPRING US
GUYS TONIGHT!
WANNA COME
ALONG AND
JOIN THE
OUTFIT?

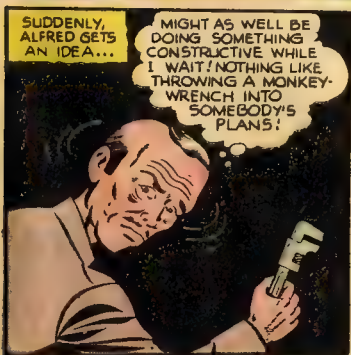
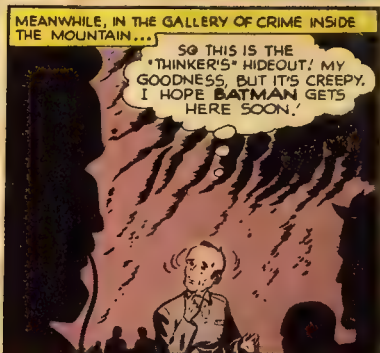
MAYBE I CAN
TRAP THE 'THINKER'!

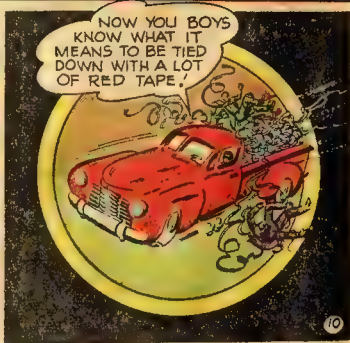
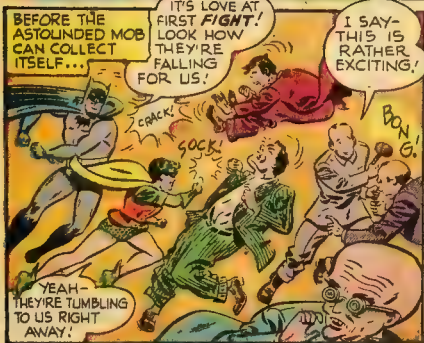
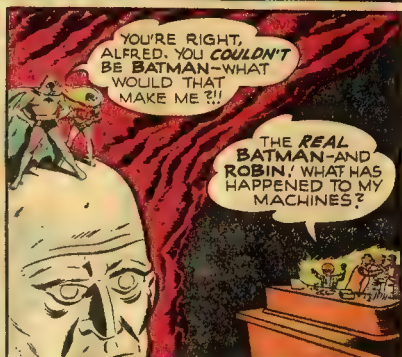
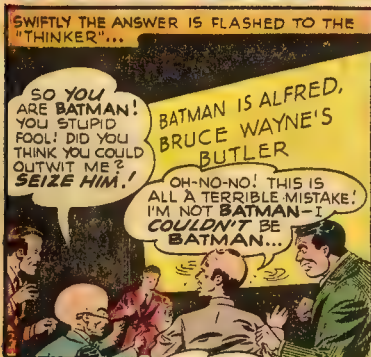
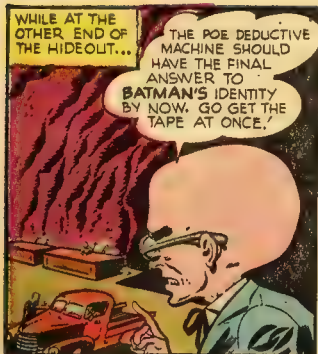
COUNT
ME IN, BUB!

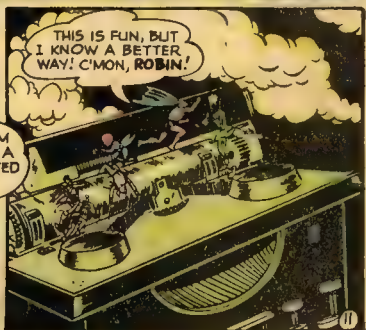
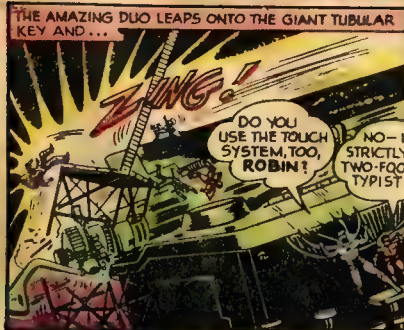
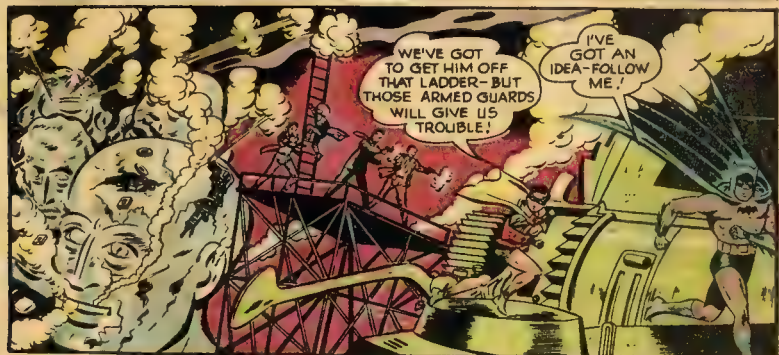
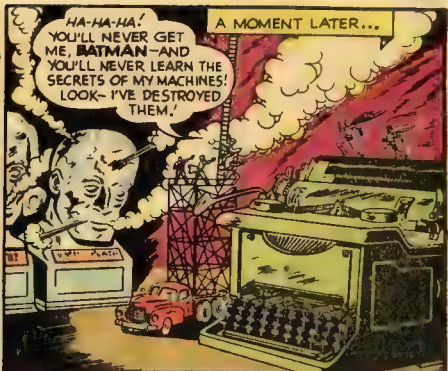
AND, SHORTLY AFTER
MIDNIGHT.



BOY - THE
'THINKER' FIGGERED
EVERYTHING TO
PERFECTION!
LET'S GO!







THE "THINKER'S" MEN ARE BATTERED BY THE CRASHING TYPEWRITER LETTERS!

POLICE, ALERTED EARLIER BY BATMAN AS SOON AS HE LOCATED THE HIDE-OUT, RUSH INTO THE GALLERY AND...

ALFRED, TURN YOURSELF OVER TO THE POLICE AND EXPLAIN THAT THE "THINKER'S" MEN FORCED YOU TO COME ALONG ON THE BREAK.

BUT HOW ARE WE EVER GOING TO GET HIM OUT OF JAIL? THE POLICE STILL THINK BRUCE WAYNE WAS MURDERED!

BRUCE WAYNE WILL TURN UP ALIVE! IT'LL BE QUITE A STORY—"MODERN MIRACLE! BRUCE WAYNE ALIVE, FOUND ON SMALL ATLANTIC ISLAND—EXONERATES BUTLER COMPLETELY"... CAN'T YOU JUST READ IT?

YOU AND YOUR MEN ARE FINISHED, "THINKER"! WANT US TO SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU?

HIT THE SHIFT LOCK, BATMAN, AND LET'S MAKE THIS CAPITAL PUNISHMENT!

LATER...

HERE'S THE ISLAND ON THIS MAP, ROBIN. WE'LL BE THERE IN ABOUT TWO HOURS.

A NAVY PATROL PLANE SHOULD SPOT YOU, AND WHEN YOU GET BACK THE PAPERS WILL BREAK THE STORY.

AND BACK IN JAIL...

AH, ME—IN A SHORT TIME ALL THIS WILL BE OVER, AND I'LL RETURN TO THE HUMDRUM LIFE OF A BUTLER. BUT—IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED—JEEPERS, IT WAS!

The End

NO SEWING NEEDED! PRESS 'EM ON!

BIG FELT LETTERS



WE GOT LETTERS AND NUMERALS FOR THE WHOLE TEAM WITH **BAZOOKA** WRAPPERS!

COMIC STRIP IN EVERY PACK!
VALUABLE PRIZES FOR WRAPPERS!

6 BIG CHEWS FOR 5¢



**YOURS FOR ONLY 10¢ EACH!
WITH A BAZOOKA WRAPPER.
PICK YOUR COLOR!**

4-inch letter or number (0-9) in washable felt, in your favorite color. No sewing needed—just press the letter onto your shirt or sweater with a hot iron.

OUR CLUB GOT LETTERS, TOO! WE JUST PRESS THEM ON! **NO SEWING!**



USE THIS COUPON, OR WRITE TO
BAZOOKA
BOX 20, MADISON SQUARE STATION,
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

PLEASE SEND ME _____
(GIVE LETTER OR NUMBER DESIRED AND COLOR PREFERRED)
I ENCLOSE 10¢ AND A BAZOOKA WRAPPER FOR EACH
LETTER OR NUMBER REQUESTED.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

**A BIG
HIT in
ADVENTURE
COMICS**

— AND NOW

SUPERBOY

**HAS A MAGAZINE
ALL HIS OWN!**



THE MILLIONS OF
FANS WHO HAVE
THRILLED TO THE
STARTLING EXPLOITS
OF
THE MAN OF STEEL
CAN THRILL AGAIN
TO THE AMAZING
ADVENTURES OF

SUPERMAN
WHEN HE
WAS A BOY!

*On Sale
Everywhere*

**DON'T MISS
THIS GREAT
FIRST ISSUE!**



BATMAN

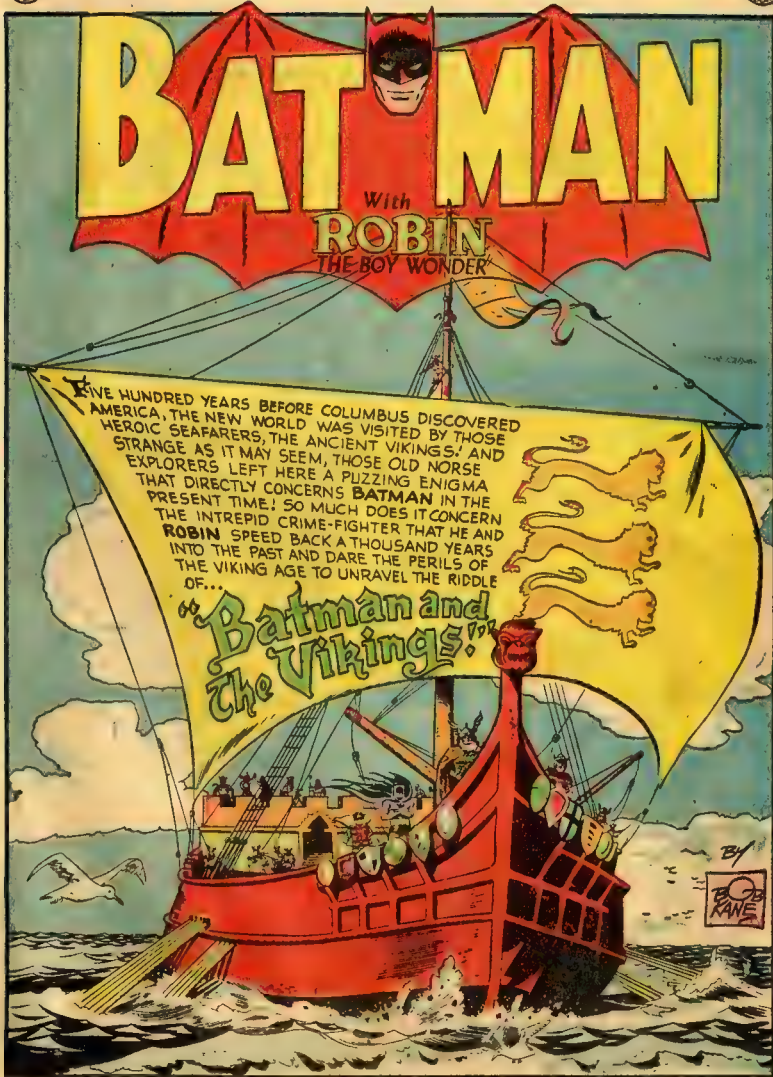


BATMAN

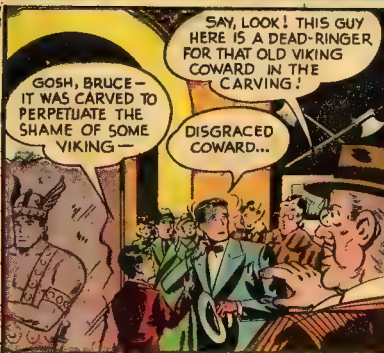
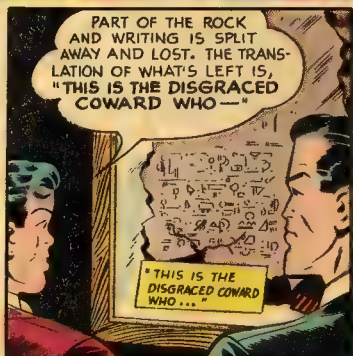
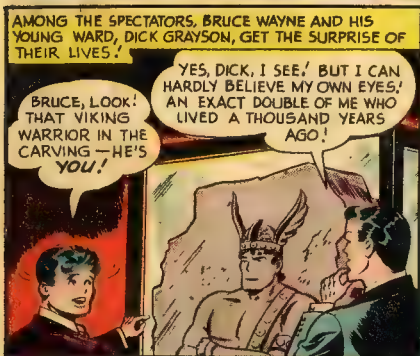
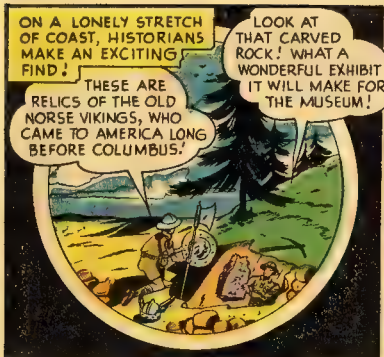
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

FIVE HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE COLUMBUS DISCOVERED AMERICA, THE NEW WORLD WAS VISITED BY THOSE HEROIC SEAFARERS, THE ANCIENT VIKINGS! AND STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, THOSE OLD NORSE EXPLORERS LEFT HERE A PUZZLING ENIGMA THAT DIRECTLY CONCERNS BATMAN IN THE PRESENT TIME! SO MUCH DOES IT CONCERN THE INTREPID CRIME-FIGHTER THAT HE AND ROBIN SPEED BACK A THOUSAND YEARS INTO THE PAST AND DARE THE PERILS OF THE VIKING AGE TO UNRAVEL THE RIDDLE OF...

**"Batman and
The Vikings!"**



BY
BOB KANE





AT HOME, THE WHISPERS STILL ECHO IN BRUCE WAYNE'S EARS...

SNAP OUT OF IT, BRUCE. AFTER ALL, IT WASN'T YOU—IT WAS ONLY SOME-ONE WHO LOOKED LIKE YOU!

I KNOW, DICK—BUT I FEEL AWFUL ABOUT IT JUST THE SAME! ANOTHER ME DISGRACED FOR ALL TIME!

BUT NO ONE JUST LIKE YOU COULD BE A COWARD, BRUCE! THIS DOUBLE OF YOURS IN THE PAST MUST HAVE BEEN MIS-JUDGED!

YOU'VE GIVEN ME AN IDEA, DICK! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT! I'LL GET PROFESSOR NICHOLS TO SEND ME BACK INTO THE PAST AGAIN!

AND ONCE MORE, THE UNIQUE SCIENTIFIC METHOD OF PROF. NICHOLS HURLS TWO INTREPID ADVENTURERS BACK INTO THE PAST!

... A THOUSAND YEARS—THE NORWAY OF THE OLD VIKINGS—

A SENSATION OF FALLING THROUGH DARKNESS, A SHOCK, A BLINDING LIGHT...

THEN...

NORWAY OF THE VIKINGS, IN THE YEAR 990!

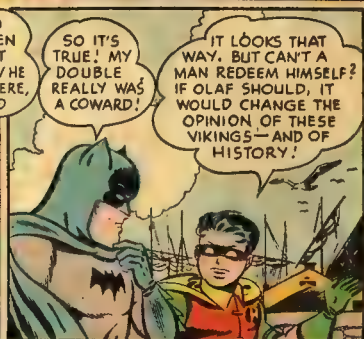
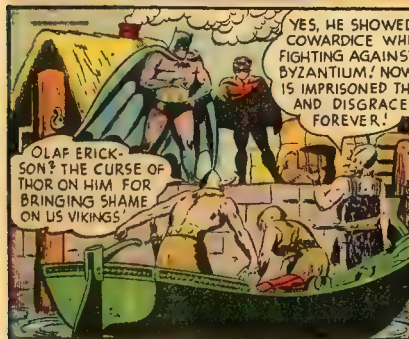
FIRST—TO FIND OUT WHO IN THIS TIME LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE ME!

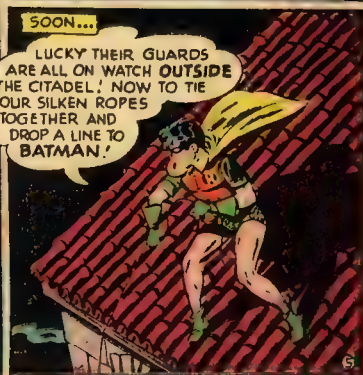
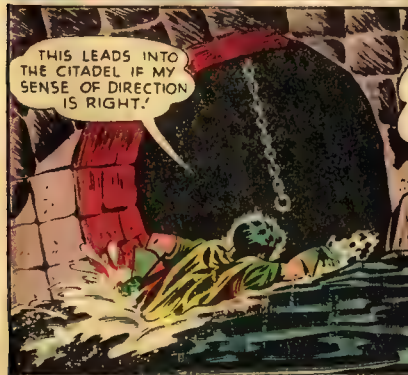
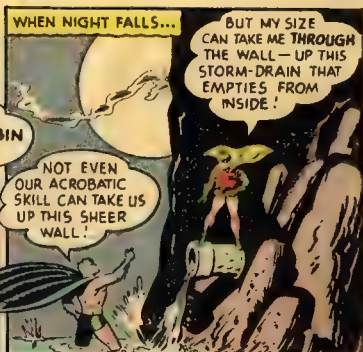
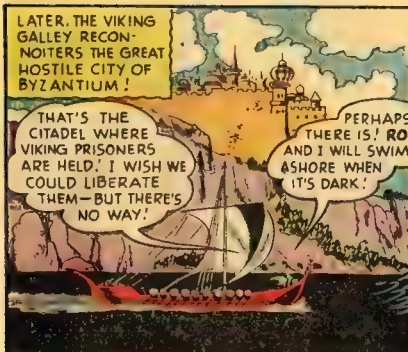
WARRIOR, TELL ME—DO YOU KNOW ANY-ONE WHO LOOKS LIKE ME?

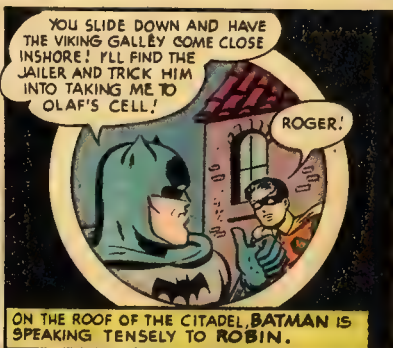
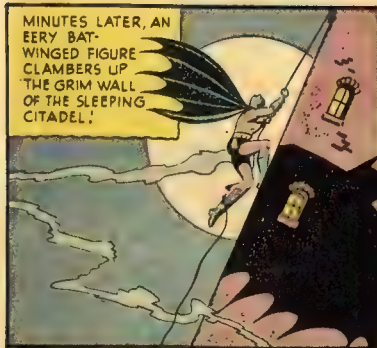
HO! SO YOU'VE DARED COME BACK TO NORWAY, YOU CRAVEN!

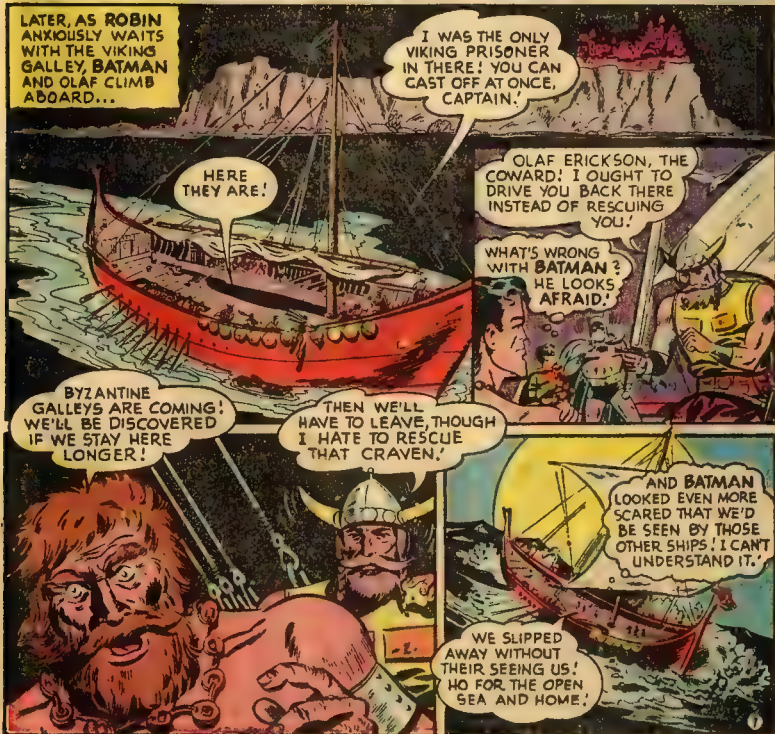
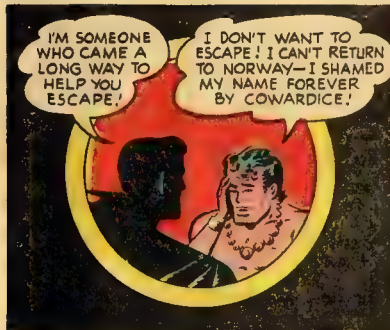
WAIT, I'M NOT THE MAN YOU THINK I AM—

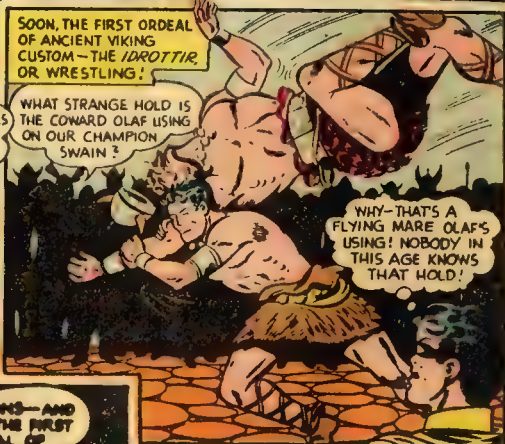
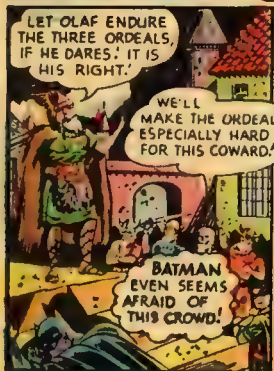
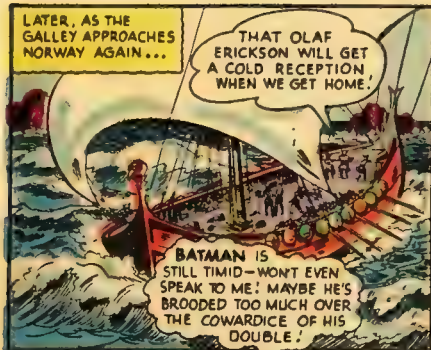
ARE YOU LIAR AS WELL AS COWARD, OLAF ERICKSON?

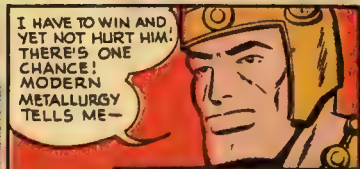








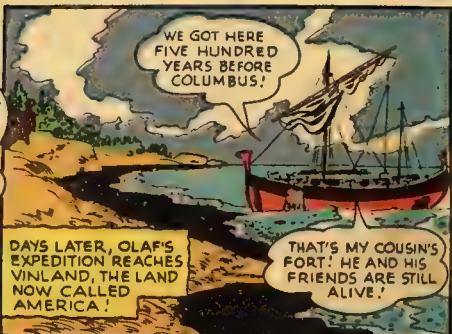




BUT LATER, AFTER BATMAN AND OLAF HAVE SECRETLY RE-EXCHANGED IDENTITIES...

THIS IS YOUR GREAT CHANCE, OLAF! YOU CAN REDEEM YOUR NAME FOREVER IF YOU BRAVELY LEAD THIS EXPEDITION TO VINLAND!

I'LL DO MY BEST! YET I STILL DOUBT MY COURAGE—YOU PASSED THOSE ORDEALS, NOT I!

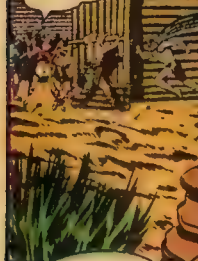


DAYS LATER, OLAF'S EXPEDITION REACHES VINLAND, THE LAND NOW CALLED AMERICA!

THAT'S MY COUSIN'S FORT! HE AND HIS FRIENDS ARE STILL ALIVE!

BUT AS THEY REACH THE FORT—

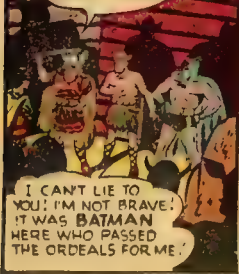
THE SKRELLINGS!



THE OLD VIKING NAME FOR THE INDIANS! QUICK, INSIDE AND CLOSE THE GATE!



THERE ARE HUNDREDS TRYING TO BREAK IN! BUT WITH THE BRAVE OLAF TO LEAD US, WE CAN'T BE CONQUERED!



OLAF, IT TOOK THE GREATEST KIND OF COURAGE TO CONFESS THAT! YOU CANNOT BE A COWARD!

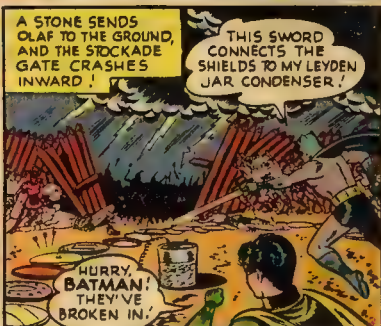
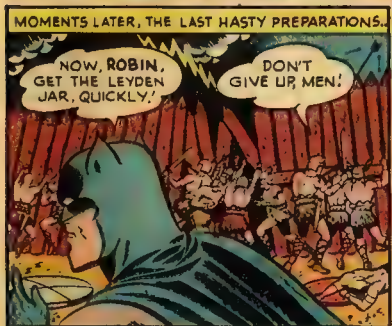
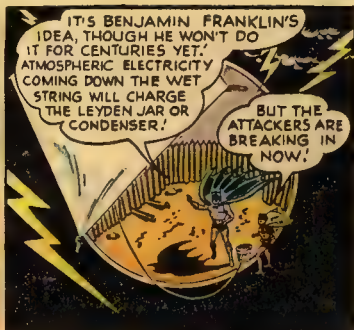
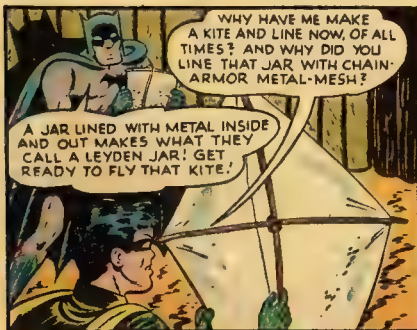


A YE, THE JARL SPEAKS TRUTH!

AND IN THEIR FAITH, A MAN AT LAST FINDS HIMSELF!



A STORM IS COMING UP! ROBIN, YOU COME WITH ME—I'VE GOT AN IDEA!





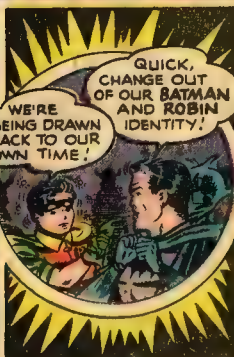
OUR BRAVE LEADER OLAF IS ONLY STUNNED!

AND THE SKRELLINGS HAVE FLED! WE CAN ALL RETURN TO NORWAY NOW!



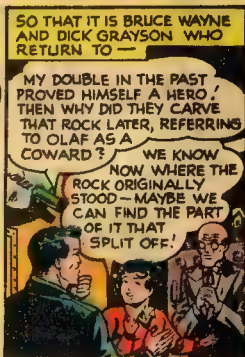
BUT BEFORE WE GO, WE'LL CARVE THIS ROCK TO COMMEMORATE THIS STRUGGLE!

BATMAN, I FEEL QUEER - DIZZY -



WE'RE BEING DRAWN BACK TO OUR OWN TIME!

QUICK, CHANGE OUT OF OUR BATMAN AND ROBIN IDENTITY!



SO THAT IT IS BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON WHO RETURN TO —

MY DOUBLE IN THE PAST PROVED HIMSELF A HERO! THEN WHY DID THEY CARVE THAT ROCK LATER, REFERRING TO OLAF AS A COWARD?

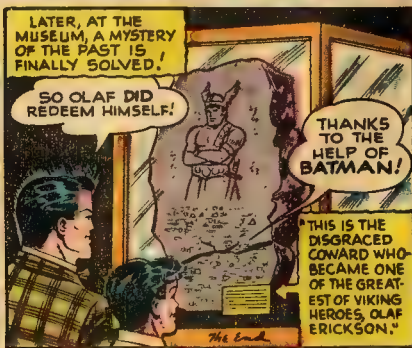
WE KNOW NOW WHERE THE ROCK ORIGINALLY STOOD — MAYBE WE CAN FIND THE PART OF IT THAT SPLIT OFF!



USING THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED A THOUSAND YEARS AGO...

THE HISTORIANS WILL TRANSLATE THE REST OF THESE RUNES FOR US!

WE'LL SOON SEE HOW THE WHOLE LEGEND READ!



LATER, AT THE MUSEUM, A MYSTERY OF THE PAST IS FINALLY SOLVED!

SO OLAF DID REDEEM HIMSELF!

THANKS TO THE HELP OF BATMAN!

"THIS IS THE DISGRACED COWARD WHO BECAME ONE OF THE GREATEST OF VIKING HEROES, OLAF ERICKSON."

The End

ADVERTISEMENT



KIDS!

BRUSHING TEETH IS FUN WITH NEW KOLYNOS INJUN KAP!

THE ONLY TOOTHPASTE CAP
THAT WORKS LIKE THIS!



Just screw Kolynos Injun Kap on tube and you're ready to go.

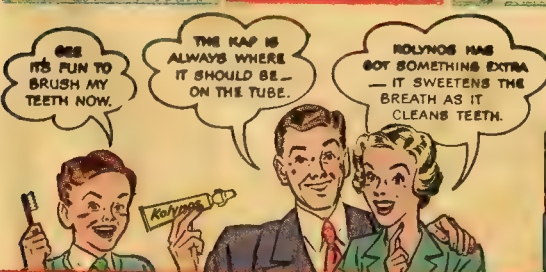


Push back "feathers" - squeeze tube - and toothpaste comes right out on the brush.



Push "feathers" up and toothpaste is squeezed slightly in the tube.

AND I
CAN'T
DROP OFF.
CAN'T
GET LOST!



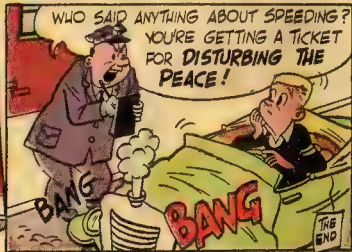
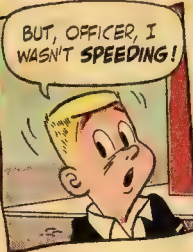
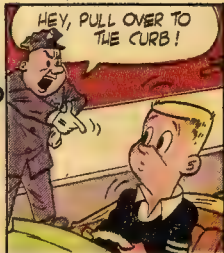
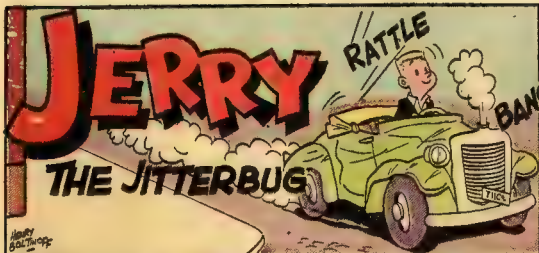
SEE
IT'S FUN TO
BRUSH MY
TEETH NOW.

THE KAP IS
ALWAYS WHERE
IT SHOULD BE -
ON THE TUBE.

KOLYNOS HAS
GOT SOMETHING EXTRA
- IT SWEETENS THE
BREATH AS IT
CLEANS TEETH.



LOOK FOR THIS DISPLAY AT YOUR DRUGGIST



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YOU AND THREE OF YOUR GANG COULD PULL THIS 896,000 POUND STEAM LOCOMOTIVE FROM A DEAD STOP! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SUPERMAN. IT'S EASY BECAUSE PRECISION BEARINGS ON EACH WHEEL DO 88% OF THE WORK!!



...AND WINCHESTER FREE WHEELING ROLLER SKATES SLIDE LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING BECAUSE THEY, TOO, HAVE WINCHESTER-MADE PRECISION BALL BEARINGS ON EACH WHEEL... THAT'S WHY IT'S SO EASY TO SKATE FASTER ON WINCHESTER FREE WHEELING ROLLER SKATES!!

REAL LEATHER STRAPS

NICKEL-PLATED STEEL GIRDER FRAME

DOUBLE TREAD ROLLS FOR MORE MILEAGE



FELLERS, HERE'S MY NEW **FREE** "TOPS IN SKATING TIPS" BOOK! LET... FOR SOME HINTS ON EXPERT SKATING. THEY'RE GOING FAST --SO WRITE TODAY.



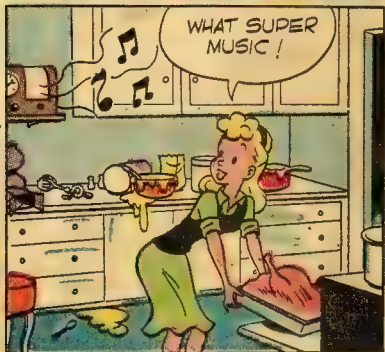
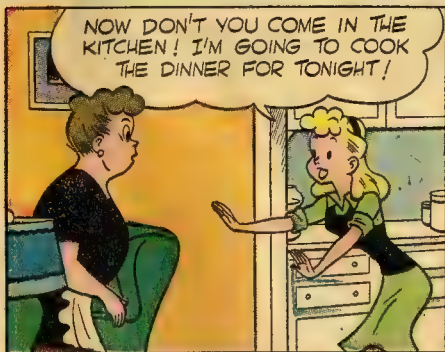
SAFETY CLAMPS

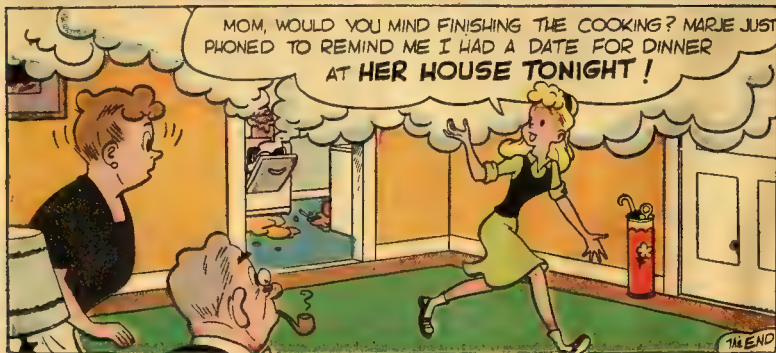
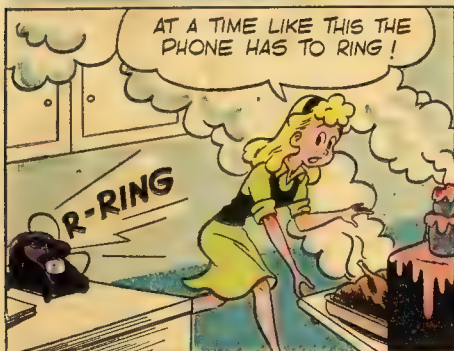
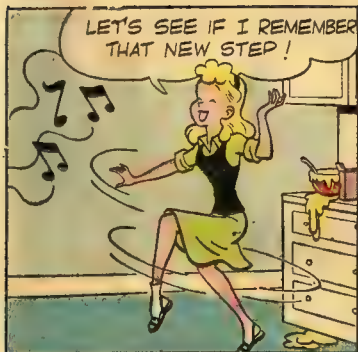
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"GUILTY!"

That was the verdict of the court.

"The penalty—death!"

This was the verdict, and this was the sentence, pronounced 2000 years ago on a man named Socrates.

After the death sentence was pronounced upon him, Socrates, then seventy years old, rose to his feet and addressed the court. He stood erect. His heart was heavy, but his head was unbowed. He told the court they were sentencing an innocent man, but he did not hate them for it. He was not afraid to die.

"Gentlemen, the hour of departure has arrived, and we must go our own way. I to die; you to live. Which is the better—only God knows." Those were the last words spoken by Socrates to the five hundred judges in the court of Athens.

Socrates was then tied in chains and thrown into prison to await the final hour. Not once in all those thirty days was he ever afraid. Not once throughout the entire month was he ever melancholy about his fate. He had an educated sense of humor, and it remained with him to the last moment.

Socrates could have escaped jail and

avoided death. His friends had bribed the prison guards and planned thoroughly the route of escape. But Socrates refused to flee. He had spent his life fighting for truth, for justice and for law. He was ready to die for what he thought was right, as he had been throughout his life.

On the morning of the last day of his life, his wife and sons came to visit him in prison. He was very cheerful. He told his wife not to worry, that his friends would take care of her and the children. She broke down and started to cry, and he had one of his friends take her and the children home.

Socrates was one of the richest poor men that ever lived. He had no money and possessed no wealth of any kind. But he had friends. Friends, who were true and loyal, who would sacrifice their lives and their fortunes for him, if he would only let them.

At sunset of the last day, the prison warden entered Socrates' cell to wish him farewell. The cell was crowded with Socrates' faithful friends. There were tears in the warden's eyes when he told Socrates that he was, "the bravest, the gentlest, the best man I have ever known—in prison or out."

Shortly a man holding a cup of poison entered. Socrates' hands and eyes were steady as he took the cup. He recited a short

prayer, raised the cup to his lips and drank the poison, as calmly as any man drinks his coffee. At this point his friends broke down and started to cry. Several became hysterical. Socrates, disappointed in their behavior, scolded them gently.

He walked up and down the cell till his feet began to feel heavy. Then he lay down and covered his head with a sheet. The poison was heading towards his heart. Silence filled the room. The old man lay motionless. Suddenly Socrates uncovered his head and spoke to his friend, Crito.

"Crito, we owe a debt to Asclepius. Don't forget to pay it." He spoke in a weak tone. When he finished he covered his head again with the sheet. His movements were those of a man whose end was near.

There was a convulsive movement. The man who had brought the poison uncovered the body. Socrates was dead.

Thus Socrates died in the city of Athens in 399 B.C., over two thousand years ago. But why? Why was he killed? What was his crime? Whom did he murder? What did he steal? He murdered nobody. He stole nothing. The only thing that Socrates ever murdered was superstition and falsehood. And the only thing he ever stole from any man was ignorance and sin.

Socrates was born in 469 B.C. in Athens. At the time Athens was at the height of her glory. He had a powerful physique. Though he ate very little, he had great energy and endurance. He wore the same kind of clothing in winter as in summer and always walked barefoot. His record as a soldier in the Athenian army was an exemplary one, demonstrating his great courage, endurance and calmness under fire.

Socrates started out life as a sculptor but soon left that to start on his lifelong search

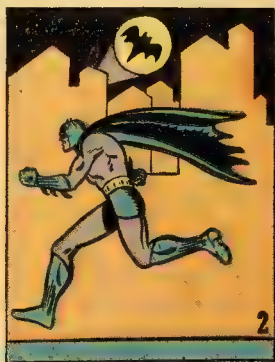
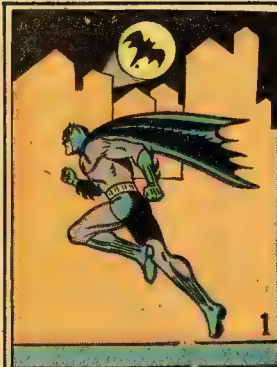
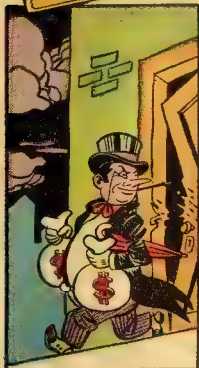
for truth, knowledge and beauty. He had very little schooling as a youth in Athens, and most of what he knew he had taught himself. He was a humble, sincere man who never got angry. He became the greatest thinker of his age and perhaps the greatest thinker of all time. Two men who might equal or surpass him are Plato and Aristotle, and they were his pupils and followers. Whatever we know today about religion, philosophy, psychology, mathematics or physics we owe, directly or indirectly, to either Socrates, Plato or Aristotle. These three men of ancient Greece laid the foundation on which modern man's knowledge is based.

Socrates was a philosopher, a thinker, a pursuer of truth and knowledge and virtue. He was a man of ideas. As his ideas spread, he became popular and influential. But his ideas differed from the ideas of the men in power at the time. His ideas were a threat to the power and prestige of the men who held the reins of the Athenian government. They tried to kill his ideas, but Socrates' ideas were too strong to be killed—truth and justice were on his side. Unable to kill his ideas, they killed Socrates himself.

Over two thousand years have passed since Socrates died, but his ideas are still alive today. The criminals in history have tortured, exiled and murdered men with new ideas since time immemorial. Their crimes are futile. For if the idea has truth, justice and mankind's progress on its side, it will live eternally and its creator will be immortal. Socrates will live till the end of time in the hearts and minds of all thinking men who pursue truth, justice and virtue.

"In death the noblest, in life the wisest and most just." In these words, spoken by Plato, the life and death of Socrates are adequately described.

CARTOON FLIPS. starring... BATMAN



CUT OUT PANELS NO. 1 AND NO. 2. PLACE NO. 1 DIRECTLY OVER NO. 2. THEN, AS SHOWN HERE, FLIP NO. 1 RAPIDLY UP AND DOWN... AND, *PRESTO*...YOUR CARTOON FLIPS WILL *move*!



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With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

WOULD YOU
THINK IT FUNNY TO BE
ROBBED BY THE JOKER?
OF COURSE NOT, BUT SOME
PEOPLE DO! WHY?? THE ANSWER
TO THAT JACKPOT QUESTION MAKES
FOR THE WHACKIEST STORY OF THE
YEAR AS BATMAN AND ROBIN GO
DAFFY TRYING TO SOLVE THE CRAZY
CASE OF...

*"The Happy
Victims!"*

STOP,
BATMAN! LET THE
JOKER ESCAPE WITH
MY \$10,000! HA! HA! I
NEVER LAUGHED SO HARD
IN MY LIFE! HA! HA! IT'S
FUN TO BE ROBBED
BY THE JOKER!





IN HIS BIZARRE RETREAT, THE GRIM JESTER PLAYS CARDS WITH A HIRELING....

YOU, LOSE, JOKER...I DREW FOUR ACES! THAT OUGHTTA BE ENOUGH TO TAKE THE POT.

WAIT!



FOUR ACES ARE *NOT* ENOUGH TO WIN WHEN YOU PLAY WITH THE JOKER! I HOLD FIVE JOKERS.



HEY, IT AIN'T FAIR TO PLAY WITH FIVE JOKERS! IT'S JUST LIKE ROBBING ME OF THE MONEY!

OHO! SO YOU THINK I'M ROBBING YOU!



THEN THE JOKER LAUGHS... SHUDDERING, SINISTER LAUGHTER THAT CHILLS HIS HIRELING'S SPINE...

HA! HA! HA! YOU DARE INSULT ME... ME! HA! HA! HA!

{GULP}
J-JOKER, I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF YOUR LAUGH! YOU-YOU WOULDN'T K-KILL ME, WOULD YOU...? NOT A GUY WITH YOUR SENSE O' HUMOR!

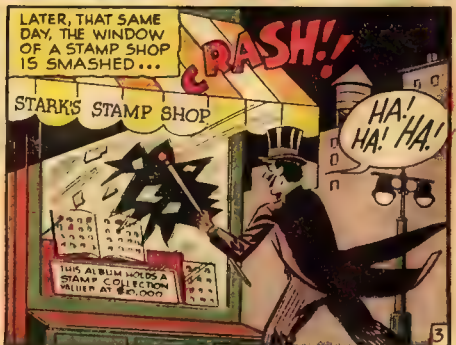
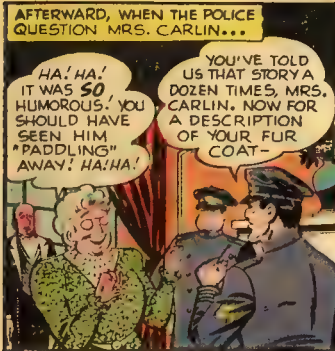
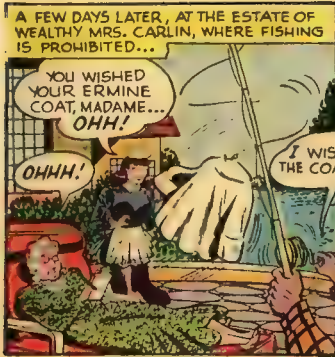


"SENSE OF HUMOR"?

S-SURE! YOU ALWAYS PULL A CRIME IN SUCH A CRAZY WAY THAT A GUY *HAS* TO LAUGH, HA, HA! S-SEE? I'M LAUGHIN'! HAR! HAR! IT'S F-FUN TO BE ROBBED BY YOU!



SUDDENLY... HERE... TAKE THE MONEY, AS PAYMENT! YOUR FRIGHTENED CHATTER HAS JUST GIVEN ME AN IDEA FOR A NEW KIND OF CRIME - FUNNY, ROBBERIES. HA! HA! HA!





LATER, WHEN THE STAMP SHOP OWNER IS QUESTIONED ...

HA-HA-HA! THAT "CHAUFFEUR-DRIVEN" POGO STICK, HA! HA!

MR. STARK, CAN YOU STOP LAUGHING LONG ENOUGH TO DESCRIBE THE \$10,000 STAMP COLLECTION HE STOLE?

LATER, IN A NIGHT CLUB CALLED THE 'DUDE RANCH,'





BUT ONCE INSIDE THE CLUB OWNER'S OFFICE, THE WATER STRIPS A MASK OFF HIS FACE, REVEALING...

THANKS FOR TAKING ME WHERE I WANTED TO BE. NOW OPEN THAT SAFE! HA! HA!

THE JOKER!



MEANWHILE... IN THE PATROLLING BATMOBILE, A POLICE ALARM IS HEARD...

CALLING CAR 14! WILD STEER REPORTED STAMPEDING FROM "DUDE RANCH" CLUB ON 52ND STREET! INVESTIGATE!

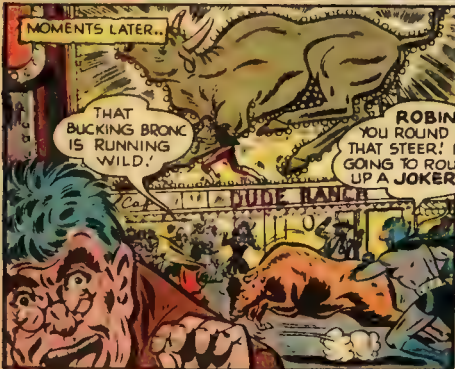


THAT'S JUST UP THE STREET, ROBIN! WE'LL BE THERE BEFORE THE POLICE CAR!

MOMENTS LATER...

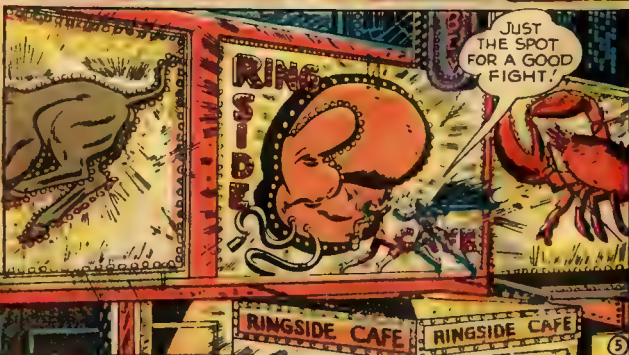
THAT BUCKING BRONC IS RUNNING WILD!

ROBIN, YOU ROUND UP THAT STEER! I'M GOING TO ROUND UP A JOKER!



BATMAN'S SILKEN LASSO UNCOILS...

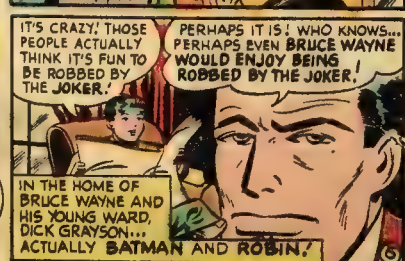
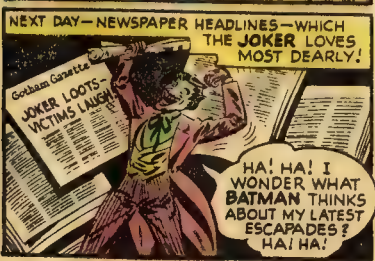
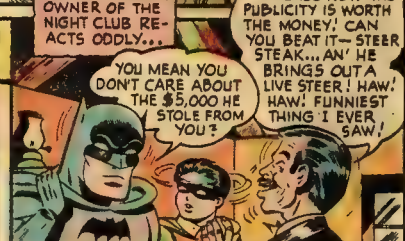
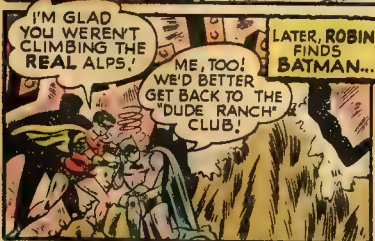
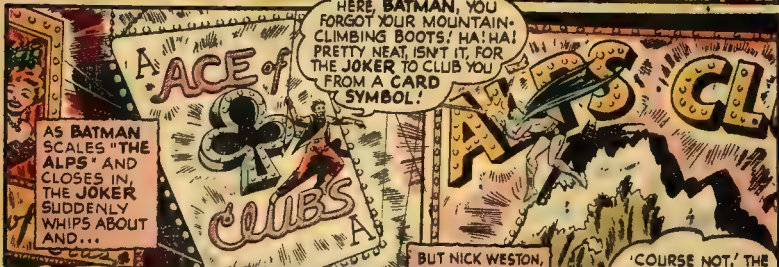
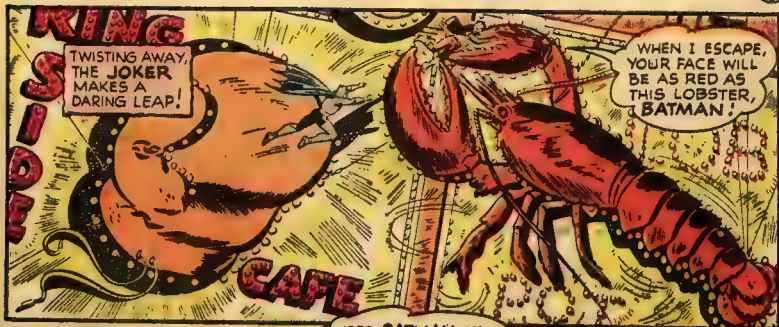
AND ABOVE THE STREET FAMED FOR ITS COLORFUL NIGHTCLUBS, BATMAN PURSUES THE JOKER ON THE EYE-DAZZLING PARADE OF SPECTACULAR SIGNS!



JUST THE SPOT FOR A GOOD FIGHT!

RINGSIDE CAFE

RINGSIDE CAFE





ANNOYED WITH BRUCE, DICK WHIPS OFF HIS OUTER GARMENTS...

YOU CAN STAY HERE AND LAUGH, BUT I'M GOING AFTER THAT GIGGLING GARGOYLE!

NO, ROBIN... WAIT! COME BACK!

BUT OUTSIDE, ROBIN GETS A SURPRISE BLOW—FROM THE SKY!

ALFRED, MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE TOLD ROBIN I WANTED THE JOKER TO ESCAPE... SO I COULD TRAIL HIM TO HIS HIDEOUT AND RECOVER THE LOOT FROM THE PREVIOUS ROBBERIES!

EH?

ROBIN! WHERE'D THAT BRAT COME FROM?

GOOD THING HE DIDN'T NOTICE OUR GETAWAY BLIMP! I'LL KEEP HIM AS A HOSTAGE IN CASE BATMAN SHOWS UP.

MOMENTS LATER...THE BATPLANE WINGS INTO THE NIGHTSKY!

ROBIN DIDN'T KNOW I HAD PAINTED THAT "LAUGHING CAVALIER" PICTURE MYSELF... WITH RADIOACTIVE PAINTS! WITH THIS GEIGER COUNTER THAT REGISTERS RADIO-ACTIVE IMPULSES, I CAN TRAIL THE JOKER'S BLIMP EVEN THOUGH IT'S OUT OF SIGHT!

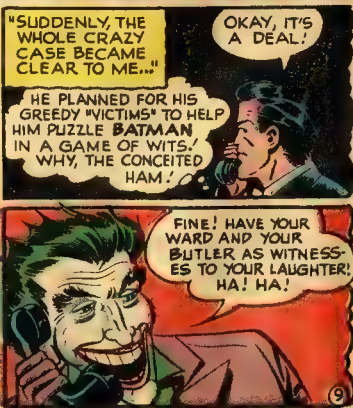
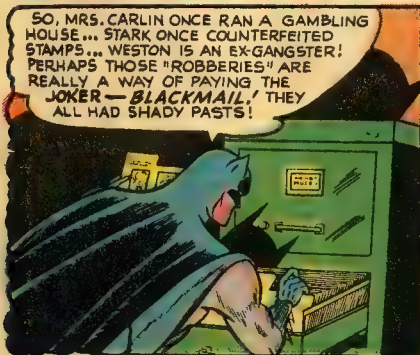
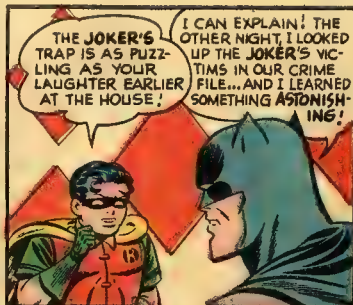
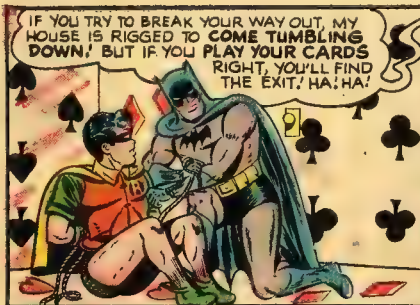
WHY... IT LOOKS LIKE THE MINIATURE HOUSES I USED TO BUILD WITH PLAYING CARDS WHEN I WAS A KID!

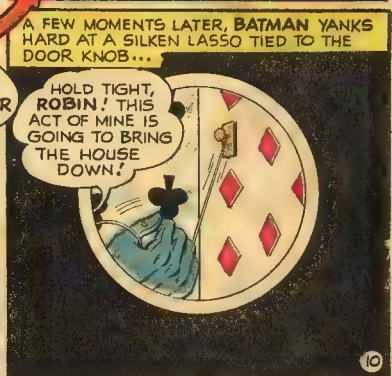
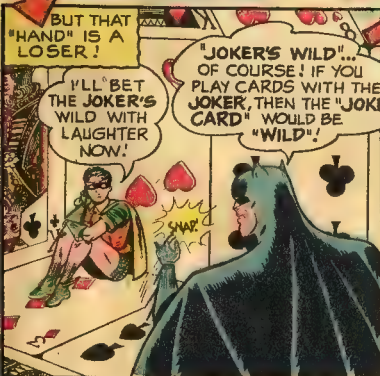
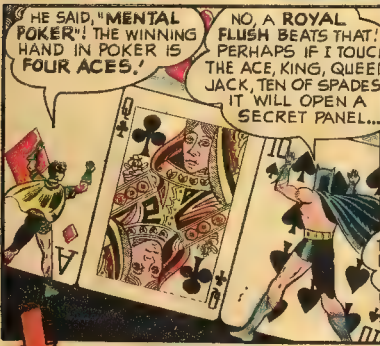
AND, THE SKY-TRAIL LEADS BATMAN TO A FANTASTIC STRUCTURE—A "HOUSE OF CARDS"!

LANDING, THE LAWMAN STEALTHILY ENTERS THE ODD BUILDING AND...

HA! HA! MY TELESCOPE SHOWED YOU FOLLOWING ME, BATMAN, SO I LED YOU INTO MY LATEST TRAP! NOW YOU AND I SHALL PLAY MENTAL POKER!

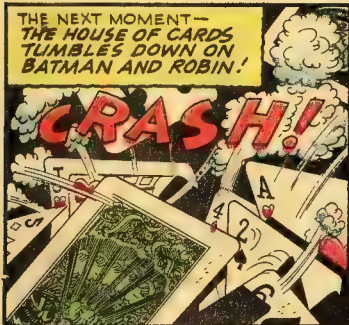
SLAM!



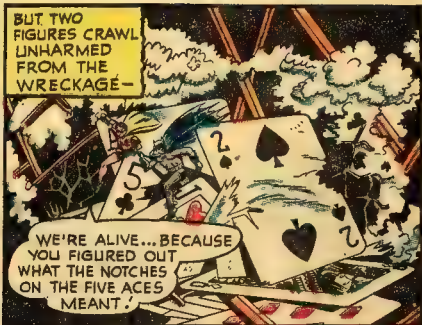




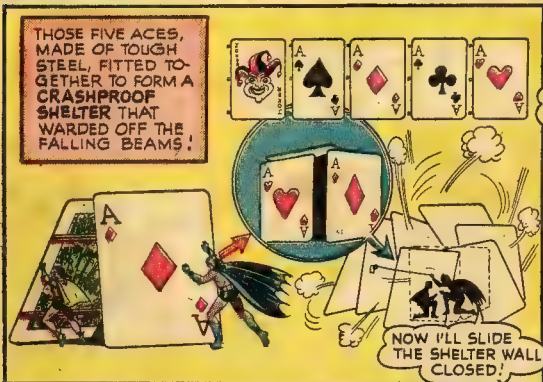
THE NEXT MOMENT—
THE HOUSE OF CARDS
TUMBLES DOWN ON
BATMAN AND ROBIN!



BUT TWO
FIGURES CRAWL
UNHARMED
FROM THE
WRECKAGE—



THOSE FIVE ACES,
MADE OF TOUGH
STEEL, FITTED TO-
GETHER TO FORM A
CRASHPROOF
SHELTER THAT
WARD OFF THE
FALLING BEAMS!



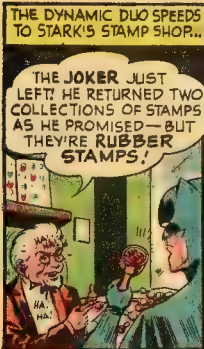
WE'LL PICK UP THE
BATMOBILE! THE JOKER'S
FINISHED WITH HIS CRIME-
GAGS, SO HE MUST BE
PAYING OFF HIS
VICTIMS!

WHAT
NOW?



THE DYNAMIC DUO SPEEDS
TO STARK'S STAMP SHOP...

THE JOKER JUST
LEFT! HE RETURNED TWO
COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS
AS HE PROMISED—BUT
THEY'RE RUBBER
STAMPS!



BUT WHEN THE MAN-
HUNTERS ARRIVE AT MRS.
CARLIN'S HOME, THE
CRIMINAL CLOWN HAS
COME AND GONE!...

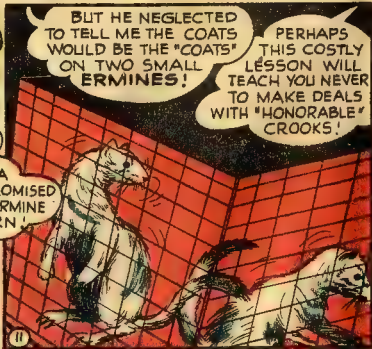
I KNOW ABOUT YOUR
DEAL WITH THE JOKER
SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL
CONFESS!

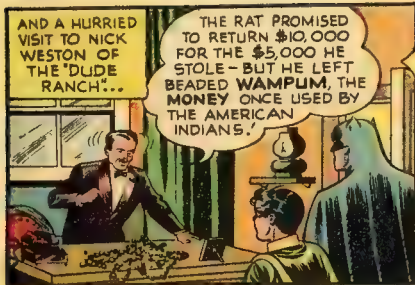


YES, I MADE A
DEAL... WHEN HE PROMISED
TO GIVE ME TWO ERMINE
COATS IN RETURN!

BUT HE NEGLECTED
TO TELL ME THE COATS
WOULD BE THE "COATS"
ON TWO SMALL
ERMINES!

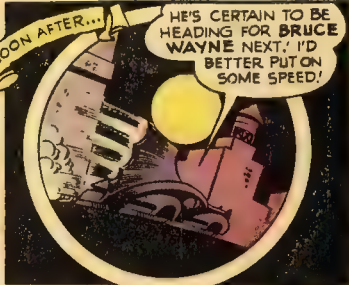
PERHAPS
THIS COSTLY
LESSON WILL
TEACH YOU NEVER
TO MAKE DEALS
WITH "HONORABLE"
CROOKS!





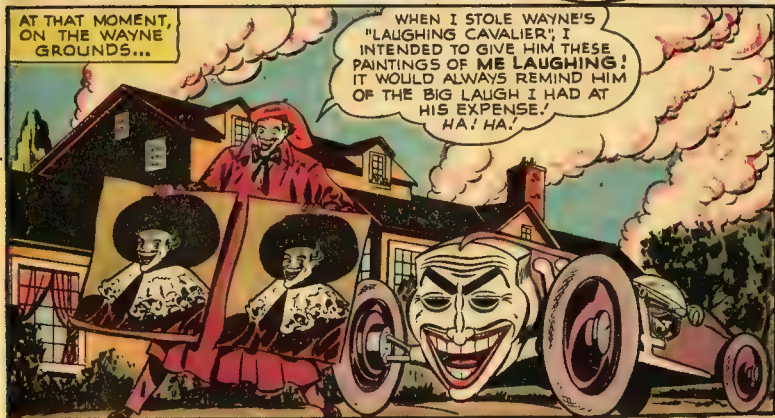
AND A HURRIED
VISIT TO NICK
WESTON OF
THE 'DUDE
RANCH'...

THE RAT PROMISED
TO RETURN \$10,000
FOR THE \$5,000 HE
STOLE - BUT HE LEFT
BEADED WAMPUM, THE
MONEY ONCE USED BY
THE AMERICAN
INDIANS.



SOON AFTER...

HE'S CERTAIN TO BE
HEADING FOR BRUCE
WAYNE NEXT. I'D
BETTER PUT ON
SOME SPEED!



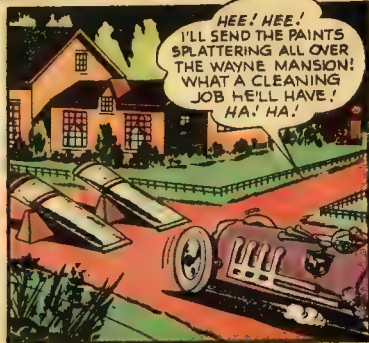
AT THAT MOMENT,
ON THE WAYNE
GROUNDS...

WHEN I STOLE WAYNE'S
"LAUGHING CAVALIER", I
INTENDED TO GIVE HIM THESE
PAINTINGS OF ME LAUGHING!
IT WOULD ALWAYS REMIND HIM
OF THE BIG LAUGH I HAD AT
HIS EXPENSE.
HA! HA!



BUT BECAUSE HE
DOUBLE-CROSSED ME,
FOR HIS ONE OIL, I'LL
RETURN TWO OILS--
TWO DISPLAY
TUBES OF OIL
PAINTS!
HA! HA!

Artist's
OIL PAINT
YELLOW
AMERICAN ARTIST



HEE! HEE!
I'LL SEND THE PAINTS
SPLATTERING ALL OVER
THE WAYNE MANSION!
WHAT A CLEANING
JOB HE'LL HAVE!
HA! HA!

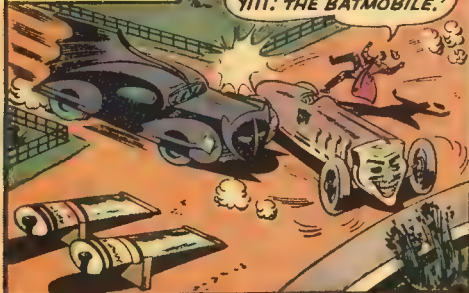


BATMAN



SUDDENLY, A DARK JUGGERNAUT THUNDERS FROM THE BLACKNESS AND EXPERTLY SIDESWIPE THE JOKERMOBILE!

YIII! THE BATMOBILE!



YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL, JOKER! UGHH!

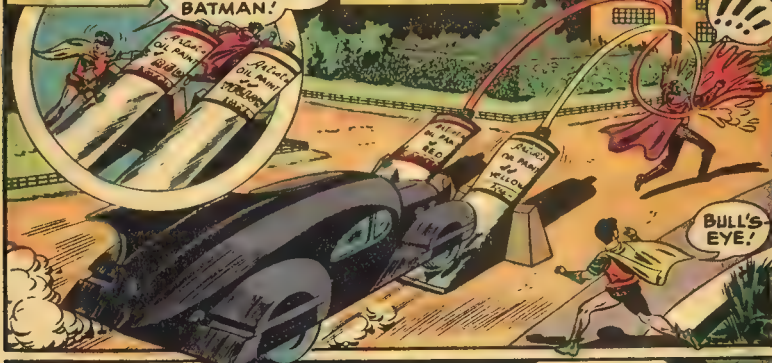
YOU'LL HAVE TO ARREST ME FIRST!



AS THE JOKER SPRINTS AWAY, BATMAN SIGNALS TO ROBIN WHO ACTS SWIFTLY...

I'VE GOT THE TUBES AIMED RIGHT! LET 'ER RIP, BATMAN!

WITH A ROAR, THE BATMOBILE RACES TOWARD THE GIANT TUBES AND...



YOU KNOW, ROBIN, THE JOKER MADE US SEE RED... BUT IN RETURN WE'VE MADE HIM SEE RED AND YELLOW!

BAH!

WE GAVE HIM TWO FOR ONE, JUST LIKE HE GAVE HIS VICTIMS. HA! HA!



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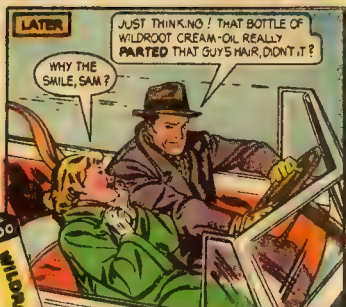
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 every Sunday evening on your Columbia (CBS)
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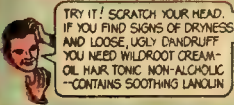
SO YOU'RE GOING TO THIS PARTY AS "FIGARO" THE BARBER, SAM!

RIGHT, CLEOPATRA! HERES MY COMB, CLIPPERS, AND A BOTTLE OF WILDROOT CREAM-OIL. LETS GO...



SAM SPADE ASKS:

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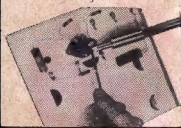


THE PUNCH-PACKED
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TRIED TO BEAT THE LAW—AND
OF THE LAWMEN WHO BEAT!
THEM TO THE FINAL DRAW.



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NOW TOPS IN COMICS!

YOU PRACTICE Radio soldering, mounting, connecting with soldering equipment and Radio parts I send you.



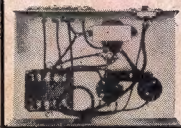
YOU BUILD this Tester that soon helps you **EARN EXTRA MONEY** fixing neighbors' Radios in spare time.



YOU BUILD special Radio Circuits like this with parts I send. Learn how to locate and repair defective circuits.



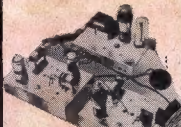
YOU BUILD Vacuum Tube Power Pack, get experience correcting Power Pack troubles of many kinds.



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GREETINGS, BATFANS, AND WELCOME TO THE SCANS OF FLATTERMANN. I'M, CARE-TAKER AROUND HERE, AND THE MORONIC EXCUSE FOR A GARGOYLE ON MY LEFT IS GREGORY--BURP FOR THE KIDDIES, BOY, WE'RE RE-HEARSING OUR SNAKE-CHARMING ACT. NOT AS EASY AS TAKING GANDHI FROM A BABY, BUDDHIST A LIVING... FOR MORE FUN AND PUNS, TURN THE PAGE, BUT HOLD ON. YOUR TEACHBUG

FLATTERMANN